

# THE FLAT HAT

VOL. I.

COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY IN VIRGINIA, MARCH 12, 1912

No. 20

## WHO'S HOW AND WHY AT THE VENERABLE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM & MARY

Something of the Great and Super Great in these Parts. Number II Capt. Tom Chapman Tilley

Captain Thomas Chapman Tilley, alias "Dormouse Tom" was born somewhere in that vagueland known as the Mother of States and Presidents, something like six years ago. While listed as the keenest student of the Norfolk Academy, he was also a member of the York Street Gang whose blood-thirsty crimes shook this nation from end to end, away back there before Bryan had made his sixteenth race. Having kissed his Alma Mammy a fond farewell, he departed her precincts with every honor in her power hung around his neck. He told his father that he was tired of the simple life and that he would then, thereupon, and without further delay enter the College of William and Mary.

### ALL FORMER RECORDS LOWERED

Since his arrival at the College, that sturdy purpose of his, allied with a fixed obsession, has elevated him to the zenith of human wishes. With extensive personal politicating, and a minus plus amount of individual merit, he attained to the honor of quarterback for two years, and by crook if not by hook got possession of the football captaincy for 1912. It might be mentioned as well that he is sergeant-at-arms of a literary society, and took a prominent part in the non-extinguishment of the Northern Lights.

### BLENDING OF MENTAL AND PHYSICAL

Captain Tilley resembles closely Napoleon at St. Helena, and his frame suggests that of Sampson at the Destruction of the Temple. But his mental qualities are by no means of the ten, twenty, thirty variety. He is the author of several books of travel, fiction, and adventure, chiefly fiction, among which may be listed "The American Thames, or with Elmore on College Creek," "In pursuit of the Poisoned Gum Drop, or Subterranean Passage to the James," "Why is a Cord," and "Sleep versus Heredity."

Communications to him should bear the full address—Captain Tilley, U. S. A., and those desiring personal interviews will find him in bed from three a. m. to four p. m.

Dr. Montgomery will tonight begin a series of lectures on the social, political, economical and religious condition of China.

## SOME OF THE MANY PRIORITIES OF THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY

College has Blazed the Way in Education since the Charter was Granted in 1693

Since the recent editorials in THE FLAT HAT on the Honor System and the Elective System, both of which were founded at William and Mary, the following list of priorities was suggested for publication. They are taken from the canvas hanging in the hall of the Main Building, and while there may be many who have seen and read, it is probable that there are a number who have neither read nor seen, and the list is given accordingly. It is thought that it will be of general interest to the college world.

### SOME OF THE PRIORITIES

Chartered, February 8, 1693, by King William and Queen Mary of England.

First college in the United States in its antecedents which go back to the college proposed at Henrico in 1619, and second to Harvard University in actual operation.

First American college to receive its charter from the Crown under the Seal of the Privy Council, hence known as Their Majesties' Royal College of William and Mary.

First, and only college in the world to receive a coat-of arms from the College of Herald, in 1694.

First college to have a full faculty, consisting of a President, six Professors, usher and writing master, 1729.

First college in the United States to confer medallic prizes, which were the medals first offered in 1771 by Lord Botetourt.

First to establish an inter-collegiate fraternity, Phi Beta Kappa, December 5, 1776.

First college to have the Elective System of Study, 1779.

First to inaugurate the Honor System, 1779.

First college in America to become a university, 1779.

First to have a school of Modern Languages, 1779.

First American college to have a school of Municipal Law, 1779.

First to teach Political Economy, 1784.

First to have a School of History, 1803.

## THE FIRST CRACK OF THE BAT HEARD YESTERDAY FOR THE SEASON OF 1912

Large Squad Out for First Day's Practice Contained Many New Men and Several Better Men

The first crack of the bat for the season of 1912 was heard on the local diamond on Monday afternoon. In spite of the cold, about thirty candidates were out. Under the direction of Coach Young they spent two hours in light practice, limbering up for the heavier work which is to follow.

### BATTING PRACTICE CHIEFLY

A large part of the time was devoted to batting practice, and some promising knock outs into the ether. Dr. Young proposes to turn out a crew of heavy hitters, and with Peachy and Garth to head the batting order, William and Mary should have a run-getting team.

Winsbro, Jones, Dix, Smith and Garland are on the playing squad and should develop into something. Peachy, Healey and Watts are candidates for the backstop's position. These men have been working out for the past months in the gymnasium, and with the warm weather some sizzling herders will be cut loose.

The team will be excellently equipped this year. A large assortment of bats, mits, protectors and other implements of baseball warfare will be in service, and everything is of the best. New bases have been secured and will add much to the facilities for the game.

### IMPROVEMENTS AND FIRST GAME

That heavy batting will be the big aim of the practice was plainly seen by a net which has been erected to save both time and balls. A regulation batting cage will be in evidence on the field in the course of the next few days.

The first game, that with Randolph-Macon, is very eagerly awaited by the fans, and optimism is the order of the day among them. Much can be done in the intervening two weeks, and the old-time championship game will be in evidence. The Yellow-Jackets have suffered about as much as the locals by the loss of old stars and the teams will be evenly matched. Support by the Student-body and hard work by the candidates should give a close and exciting contest.

## FEBRUARY NUMBER OF MAGAZINE MANTAINS USUAL GOOD STANDARD

Much Good Verse, a Readable Essay, and Some Stories that Read Well, but Lack Plot

Criticism must always be to some degree personal; what is good to the taste of one may be less good to that of another, and bad in the opinion of a third. Yet there are standards of criticism by which there is an undeniable good and bad, however much there may be difference as to the degree. The one number of the table of contents of the February "Lit" which will be most generally conceded to represent the 'good' is a delicately musical butterfly of a poem, "Airy-Fairy and Tinkle Toes." Almost as melodious and touched with somewhat more of imagination and somewhat less of fancy are the verses "A Little While" and "Satin and Silk." The rhythmical beat of their lines is pleasant; and the softness of the phrasing blends with the reminiscent half-melancholy of the thought. There is a charming use of aliteration and assonance in the lines from "A Little While," "The Voices of the Vastness Mock at the Memory of a Long Past Hour."

The leading prose article is an essay with Beverley Bland Munford for subject. There is honor in doing honor to such an alumnus and William and Mary can not recall his name with enough of love and veneration. This study is interesting and takes its place fittingly in this delightful series, the inception of which is a credit to the editor and his co-workers. "The Conquest of Auntie," "De Montres' Death" and "The Pride of MacByrne" are the titles of the stories included; the writers have made the most of what they had to tell. They suffer when compared with the best that the Magazine has presented in recent issues for each lacks a genuinely interesting plot; a criticism, however, that should scarcely be made of any college magazine story had there not been an unusual promise in the standard of earlier numbers. The essay "Conservatism" fills out the list of prose contributions; a conservative reviewer will scarcely undertake to revive it.

Taking the Magazine as a whole, there is nothing to be ashamed of in it. It is free from tawdry and bad-

(Continued on fourth page)



# THE FLAT HAT

*Stabilitas et Fides.*

FOUNDED OCTOBER 3, 1911

COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY  
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THE FLAT HAT is published every Tuesday by the Students of the College of William and Mary except during holidays and examinations, at the office of The Virginia Gazette. Solicitation is made for contributions and opinions from The Student-body, Alumni, and Faculty, all of which must be signed, but the author's name need not be published. Advertising rates furnished on application. Subscription price one dollar the year, single copies five cents.

TELEPHONES.....Nos. 73 and 24

Entered at the Postoffice at Williamsburg, Virginia, as second-class matter.

Tuesday, March 12, 1912

## THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA AND THE ELECTIVE SYSTEM

In the last issue of THE FLAT HAT something was given about the Honour System, which was first inaugurated at the College, and which was the natural outgrowth, and inevitable product of the high personnel that has characterized the William and Mary Student-body since its inception away back in the Seventeenth Century.

It was shown how this world-famous institution was claimed by the University of Virginia, and as how the claim was erroneous and unfounded, not to say inexcusable in the light of evidence as clear as day itself, and as indisputable as anything can be in this doubting world of ours. In the present writing, a similar account of the Elective System is the end in view. This System dates from so early a year as Seventeen Hundred and Seventy, as has been stated in 'The College of William and Mary in Virginia—Its History and Work' from which the accompanying information is obtained. At that time the Visitors allowed a student to depart from the established order to the extent that he might enter the School of Mathematics before the preliminary training of Latin and Greek in the grammar school. The Faculty furthermore resolved for the encouragement of science 'that the student on paying annually one thousand pounds of tobacco, shall be entitled

to attend any two of the following Professors, viz: of Law and Politics, of Natural Philosophy and Mathematics, and of Moral Philosophy, the Law of Nature and of Nations, and of the Fine Arts; and that for fifteen hundred pounds he shall be entitled to attend any three Professors, the fees to be paid at that period of the year when the courses of lectures commence.'

By Seventeen Hundred and Ninety-two, students who were prepared did not have to conform to the regular course, and any student soever could take the Modern Languages. The rule grew more and more general, and the student was entered upon the matriculation book as 'regular' or 'irregular' to denote whether or not he took the prescribed course. So it was that Mr. Jefferson wrote to Francis Epps four years before the birth of the University, 'At William and Mary students are allowed to attend the schools of their choice, and those branches of science only which will be useful to them in the line of life they propose.'

Further corroboration is to be found in a report to the Legislature of Virginia in Eighteen Hundred and Forty-five by William Barton Rogers, who for many years was a distinguished Professor in the College of William and Mary, who was the founder of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and who at the time mentioned was Chairman of the Faculty of the University of Virginia. 'Many years,' he wrote 'before the establishment of the University, the privilege of an election of studies was allowed at William and Mary. Within her venerable precincts liberal methods of instruction found a home before they were adopted by the thronged and applauded colleges of New England.'

And yet in the face of such direct proof the University poses as the author of this System, which has had perhaps a wider influence upon modern educational methods than any other ever introduced, and the following words of Mr. Jefferson, written in Eighteen Hundred and Twenty-three to George Ticknor are the authority for the claim: 'Our institution will proceed on the principle of doing all the good it can without consulting its own pride or ambition; of letting every one come and listen to whatever he thinks may improve the condition of his mind.' This idea Mr. Jefferson obtained from his Alma Mater, and he said as much in the letter quoted above. William and Mary invented, has employed and still employs the Elective System, and to any one who makes an effort to deprive her of the distinction of its authorship, we say—'Claim on McDuff!' thereby paraphrasing a well known speech, the rest of which we should quote likewise except for the delicacy of some

of our patrons who are right much opposed to vigorous language. The University it seems should be satisfied with her meteoric course, just as it is, without covetously snatching after that long list of priorities which has gone with the name of William and Mary ringing around the world. To have been the 'Pet' of Mr. Jefferson's last days, and the possessor of 'Room 13', and the abode of John B. Minor, the profoundest teacher of Law in America, is enough to make her famous for all time.

## A SCRAP HEAP OR A STRAY PEN?

In view of the abnormal amount of scrap paper, cigarette boxes, and general student and city debris, and other animals, it might be asked by tourists whether the delightful old College Green were a scrap pile or a pound. The Superintendent of Grounds and Buildings is earnestly attempting to beautify and preserve the College property. But because of the limited labour supply at his command, he will be thwarted in his ambition, unless he receives student cooperation. People of the City might also contribute in a negative way by keeping their horses, cows and goats at home.

The defacement and destruction of buildings and other property may not be subject to regulation by the guardians of the Honour System, but in the wider field of honour, the code of the true Southerner, wanton-

ness in such respect is decidedly to be despised.

## PLAYING WITH FIRE

It seems a regrettable thing, that the question of co-ordination has to be taken up for debate by the Class in Public Speaking. Not that the opinion of the class is of any direct weight, but that it adds a small amount to the agitation of this disagreeable subject, which may grow even as the circles in a pool. There is no subject in all the world which if suggested will not find its advocates and supporters. Apparently good argument may be had on either side of any question; and those young men who happen to be placed on the side approving a Woman's College here are subjected to the risk of convincing themselves of their belief in this new fangled idea, in their anxiety to defeat their opponents in debate.

Playing with fire is not an altogether safe thing, and these young men should remember that the Alumni, Faculty, and Student-body do not care for coeducation, even if it be given a pretty name.

The mention last week of 'an ex-officio member of the Faculty' who objected to the elimination of the Final Ball did not refer to Dr. Tyler, but to Mr. Koontz, and was used in the sense of one not having a vote. We are glad to state also that Mr. Koontz denies that he took the stand attributed to him.

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### IN AND OUT OF COLLEGE TOPICS

Mr. Tho. Barrow, Jr., was at his home in Smithfield for the most of last week.

Mr. J. F. Barnes has assumed the role of "David" in the Elizabethans' play in the stead of Mr. Alan F. English who was compelled to resign the part because of excessive work.

Miss Sadie Harrison returned to Williamsburg Wednesday from a several months' stay in the far South.

Miss Nora Macon who has been in Charleston, South Carolina, since the holidays has returned.

Miss Nannie Spencer left Friday for Saltville, Virginia, where she has accepted a position.

Mr. Roy C. Deal was called to Norfolk Thursday by the death of his grandfather.

The part of Sir Lucius O'Trigger in "The Rivals" recently given up by Mr. Thomas, has not yet been assigned by Manager Jackson to another.

The lecture by Mrs. John H. Lewis on Woman's Suffrage was attended by the entire Student-body. Wild applause greeted the many subtle arguments advanced.

Miss Ayler, of Newport News, has been the guest of Miss Katherine Geddy.

Professor J. D. Cooley, of V. P. I., was at the College Thursday as the guest of Mr. G. W. Booth.

Miss Mary Calhoun, daughter of Dr. John C. Calhoun, has arrived in Williamsburg to be with her father.

### PROFESSOR RITCHIE PREPARING A NEW BOOK

Professor John W. Ritchie, head of the Department of Biology, is working on another text book which he hopes to complete by the end of the summer. It is to be a work on human physiology. Leave of absence was granted to him until the completion of the task, and in his stead Professor Harvey, of the University of Chicago, has been employed to assist Mr. Koontz in the work of the Department.

### SURVEYING CLASS ON TRIP

Professor John Tyler and his class in surveying set out yesterday on an extensive tour, the object of which is to put into practice the theories which have been propounded up to this time. They are to survey a large estate just out of Richmond, and now expect to complete the work in about a week. Those composing the party were Professor Tyler and Messrs. Jack Wright, T. J. Rowe, Walter Nourse, and Roy Deal. The journey has been under consideration for some time, but the three snows of last week prevented the move.

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**FEBRUARY NUMBER OF MAGAZINE**

composed writings; the prose is sensible, the verse musical; the editing is careful and in taste; and there are three sets of verses that linger in one's memory because one is glad to have them linger there.

**DR. TYLER AT RANDOLPH-MACON**

Dr. Lyon G. Tyler went to Lynchburg Saturday where he had been invited to deliver an address before the Randolph-Macon Woman's College. His speech had to do with the rights, privileges, and position of women at the present day.

**PHILOMATHEAN ELECTS OFFICERS**

Unfortunately the recent election

of officers in the Philomathean Literary Society was given in to THE FLAT HAT last week too late for publication. The list of those elected is as follows: President, Wm. Jeffrey Alfriend; vice-president, J. L. Stanley; secretary, Mr. Givens.

**ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR ANNUAL COVER**

Mr. William Elliott Dold who has charge of the art work and arrangement of the Colonial Echo, has returned from a two days' trip to Richmond on business relating to that phase of the Annual. His chief object in going was to submit his design for the cover, which was satisfactorily arranged, and it is said that it will be the most tasteful and attractive ever presented by this popular College publication. It is a decided departure from anything ever seen on previous issues of the Echo.

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